

# Product Support Bulletin

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Subject: How To Connect Epson PostScript Printers Into An AppleTalk Network

Date: 10/9/92  
Page(s): 1 of 1

PSB No: P-0092  
Originator: SDS

This bulletin provides information on how to interface Epson laser printers with an Epson PostScript<sup>1</sup> Card to an Apple Macintosh<sup>2</sup> using Apple LocalTalk<sup>3</sup> and the BridgePort<sup>4</sup> by Extended Systems.

Connecting a printer to an Apple Macintosh can be difficult if the printer does not have an AppleTalk interface. The Epson Action Laser II and EPL-8000 laser printers with the Epson PostScript Card installed do not have built-in AppleTalk interfaces and as such can be difficult to connect to an AppleTalk network.

Extended Systems has a solution to this problem. It is the Bridgeport 2679B. This printer sharing device allows you to connect a PostScript printer to an AppleTalk network and two DOS-based PCs. The Bridgeport has an AppleTalk port that allows connection to either a stand-alone Macintosh or to an AppleTalk network via Apple LocalTalk. This device also has a serial and a parallel port for connecting two DOS-based PCs. The Bridgeport will monitor each of the input ports and route data that it receives to the printer.

The Bridgeport 2679B was tested from an AppleTalk network to an Action Laser II, an EPL-8000 with the Epson PostScript Card, and to an Epson EPL-7500. All three installations worked flawlessly and the printed output was exactly as expected. This device requires that the Apple LaserWriter<sup>5</sup> driver Version 5.2 or above be installed on the network.

The manufacturer suggested retail price of the Extended Systems' Bridgeport is \$495.00<sup>5</sup>. See below for Extended Systems' address and telephone numbers.

Extended Systems  
P.O. Box 4937  
Boise, Idaho 83711  
(800) 235-7576 (U.S.)  
(406) 587-7575 (Outside U.S.)

<sup>1</sup> PostScript is a registered trademark of Adobe Systems Incorporated.

<sup>2</sup> Macintosh is a trademark of Apple Computer, Inc.

<sup>3</sup> AppleTalk, LocalTalk, and LaserWriter are registered trademarks of Apple Computer, Inc.

<sup>4</sup> Bridgeport is a trademark of Extended Systems Incorporated.

<sup>5</sup> Price is subject to change without notice.

# Product Support Bulletin

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Subject: EPL-8000 Commonly Asked Questions and Answers

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Page(s): 1 of 6

PSB No: P-0085  
Originator: YNM

This bulletin answers some commonly asked questions about the EPL-8000 printers.

1. Q. What is the rated print speed and resolution for the EPL-8000?  
  
A. The EPL-8000 print speed is up to ten (10) pages per minute (PPM) when using letter-size paper, and the resolution is 300 x 300 dots-per-inch (dpi).
2. Q. How many resident fonts are in the EPL-8000 and are they scalable (PCL-5)?  
  
A. The EPL-8000 has 13 scalable fonts and 14 bitmapped fonts in HP emulation.
3. Q. What is RITech?  
  
A. Resolution Improvement Technology (RITech) allows the EPL-8000 to reassemble the dot mapped data to improve the printed image. This improvement smoothes diagonal lines to remove the "jaggies" or jagged edges from text and graphics.
4. Q. What type of processor is in the EPL-8000?  
  
A. The EPL-8000 uses a 16.67 MHz Motorola 68000 processor,
5. Q. From a cold start, what is the warm-up time on the EPL-8000?  
  
A. The warm-up time from cold start is approximately 70 seconds.
6. Q. Who manufactures the engine used in the EPL-8000?  
  
A. The engine used in the EPL-8000 is the NC10 manufactured by Minolta.

7. Q. What printer operating modes are built-in the EPL-8000?

A. There are three (3) built-in operating modes:

1. HP LaserJet Series III emulation (PCL-5).
2. Epson ESC/P 24-pin printer emulation (LQ-2500).
3. Epson ESC/P 9-pin printer emulation (FX-86e/286e).

8. Q. How much memory comes standard with the EPL-8000?

A. The EPL-8000 comes standard with 1MB of memory.

9. Q. Is it possible to add chips to the main board of the EPL-8000 to expand the memory?

A. Yes, the 256K X 4 memory chips may be added to the main board to expand the memory of the EPL-8000 up to 2MB. The EPL-8000 memory may be further expanded to a maximum of 7.5MB by installing a 0KB memory expansion board.

10. Q. What type of chips can be installed on the 0KB memory expansion board?

A. The 0KB memory expansion board has locations that will accommodate four sets of DRAM memory chips. Each set contains four chips. The board will accept two types of DRAM chips:

1. 256K x 4 bit, 80 nanosecond chips (4 of these constitute a .5MB chip set)
2. 1 MB x 4 bit, 80 nanosecond chips (4 of these constitute a 2MB chip set)

Note: The Epson Accessories Department sells both types of RAMS in sets (part numbers RAM-5A and RAM-20A).

11. Q. Can these chips be mixed, if so, what are the possible combinations and locations on the 0KB memory expansion board?

A. The chip sets can be mixed as long as they are filled in alphabetical order (sector A, then, sector B, and so on) onto the 0KB memory expansion board. The Dip switches must be set to correspond to the type of chip set installed.

12. Q. What interface ports are built-in the EPL-8000?

A. The EPL-8000 has two (2) of the most commonly used interface ports built-in:

1. Centronics Parallel
2. RS-232C or RS-422 Serial

The EPL-8000 also has an additional slot for the EPSON "B" Type interfaces.

13. Q. Will the internal serial port accept 7 or 8 bit word length?

A. Through the control panel, in SelecType Level 2, either 7 or 8 bit word length can be selected.

14. Q. What are the product codes for the options and supplies for the EPL-8000?

A. Listed below are the product codes of the options and supplies:

<u>Part Number</u>	<u>Description</u>
<b>C812281</b>	Lower Paper Tray
<b>C812231</b>	Legal Paper Cassette
<b>C812271</b>	Face-up Output Tray
<b>C822061</b>	0KB Memory Expansion Board
<b>S051009</b>	Long Life Imaging Cartridge
<b>S051003</b>	Ozone Filter
<b>C826021</b>	Epson GL Identity Card
<b>C823071</b>	32KB Serial Interface Board (Type B)
<b>C823101</b>	32KB Parallel Interface Board (Type B)
<b>C826051</b>	Adobe PostScript Identity Card

15. Q. What is the rated life of the consumable items?

A. Using letter or A4-size paper with 5% toner coverage of the sheet, the rated life for the Long Life Imaging Cartridge is 8,000 pages. The Ozone Filter will last six months.

16. Q. What is the difference between the EPL-7000/7500 Imaging Cartridge and the EPL-8000 Long Life Imaging Cartridge?

A. The EPL-8000 Long Life Cartridge has additional toner which equates into 2000 additional pages. Otherwise, the two Imaging Cartridges are functionally the same.

17. Q. Why does the EPL-8000 have both card slots (A) and (B), and a cartridge slot (C)?

A. The card slots are for Epson identity cards. In the future, the Adobe PostScript identity card will work in this slot.

The cartridge slot is for HP-compatible font cartridges. Identity cartridges for HP printers will not work in this slot.

18. Q. What are the paper handling capacities of the input tray, output tray and optional equipment?

A. The paper capacities, using standard 20 lb. paper, are listed below:

1. Input Paper Cassette Tray (Standard) - 250 sheets
2. Lower Paper Tray (Optional) - 250 sheets
3. Legal Paper Cassette Tray (Optional) - 250 sheets
4. Face-down Exit Tray (Standard) - 150 sheets
5. Face-up Output Tray (Optional) - 50 sheets
6. Manual Feed Tray (Standard) - Single sheets

19. Q. How does the automatic interface switching work?

A. Unlike conventional printers, the EPL-8000 can receive print jobs from either the parallel, serial or optional ports. This means that with an optional interface installed, three computers can automatically share the EPL-8000 when they are each connected to a separate port. It is not necessary to connect the EPL-8000 through a network or switchbox to activate the switching of the three ports. Also, no control panel functions need to be made. Optional emulations will require more memory.

The printer can receive data from one interface while printing data from the other interface. The first job received is the first to print. Each job prints completely before another begins printing.

20. Q. Can I get a print out of the current settings of the printer?

A. Yes, to print the Status Sheet follow the steps below:

1. Press the SelecType button to enter Level 1.
2. Press the down arrow button (Feed/Manual) until "Status Sheet" appears on the display screen.
3. Press the right arrow button (On Line) twice to activate the "Status Sheet".
4. After the page prints, press the left arrow button (SelecType) twice to return the unit to an on-line condition.

21. Q. Is there a separate "Font Sample" print of the internal fonts and cartridge fonts?

A. Yes, to print the "Font Sample", follow the steps below:

1. Press the SelecType button to enter Level 1.
2. Press the down arrow button (Feed/Manual) until "Font Sample" appears on the display screen.
3. Press the right arrow button (On Line) twice to activate the "Font Sample".
4. After the page prints, press the left arrow button (SelecType) twice to return the unit to an on-line condition.

22. Q. If a "FEED JAM" message is displayed when the EPL-8000 is first powered up, how can the problem be corrected?

A. In most cases, the "FEED JAM" error can be corrected by following the steps below:

1. With the power on, open the printer cover and remove any paper that is in the printer.
2. Close the printer cover.
3. Allow the printer to complete the initialization.

23. Q. How do I set the EPL-8000 back to the factory default settings?

- A.
1. Press the ON LINE button to take the printer off-line.
  2. Press and hold the Reset/Copy End button until 'INITIALIZE' appears on the LCD display, then release the button.

24. Q. If the print density seems too dark or too light, is there a way to control it?
- A. The print density is controllable by turning the small green print density control knob, which is located inside the EPL-8000 on the right side.
25. Q. What printer driver selection should I choose in my software programs when using the EPL-8000 in the HP mode?
- A. The proper printer driver selections are listed below in order of preference.
- HP LaserJet **III**si
  - HP LaserJet **IIIP**
  - HP LaserJet **Series III**
  - HP LaserJet **IIP**
  - HP LaserJet Series II
  - HP LaserJet Plus
  - HP LaserJet **500**